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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :  
Munenori NOGUCHI : Attorney Docket No. 2006\_1071A  
Serial No. 10/593,298 :  
Filed September 18, 2006 :

OCCLUSAL SURFACE TRANSFER INSTRUMENT,  
ARTICULATOR, OCCLUSAL SURFACE SETTING  
INSTRUMENT, AND METHOD FOR MAKING  
POST CROWN BY USING THEM

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant requests consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

- ☒ each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;
- ☐ each reference previously cited in the international application PCT/\_\_\_\_\_; and/or
- ☐ each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_.

1a. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

**and thus no certification and/or fee is required.**

1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**

(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

**the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and**

**the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.**

2. It is hereby certified

a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

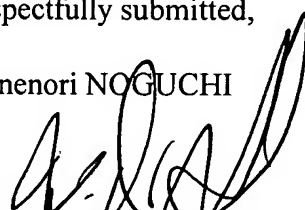
4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
- a. ☒ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
  - b. ☐ a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
  - c. ☒ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at pages 2 and 3,
  - d. ☒ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
  - e. ☐ the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
5. ☐ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.
6. ☐ Statement Under 37 CFR 1.704(d)

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

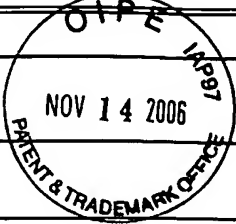
Munenori NOGUCHI

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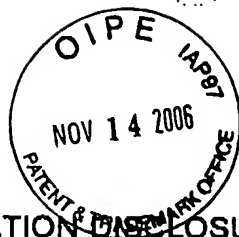


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November 14, 2006

| Sheet 1 of 1   |    |                    |       |                                   |                 |                          |                                      | INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT   |  |  |  |
|--|----|--------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| FORM PTO 1449 (modified)<br><br>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE<br><br>LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)<br><i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i><br><br>Date Submitted to PTO: November 14, 2006 |    |                    |       | ATTY DOCKET NO.<br>2006_1071A     |                 | SERIAL NO.<br>10/593,298 |                                      |  |  |  |  |
|  |    |                    |       | APPLICANT<br>Munenori NOGUCHI     |                 |                          |                                      |  |  |  |  |
|  |    |                    |       | FILING DATE<br>September 18, 2006 |                 | GROUP                    |                                      |  |  |  |  |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS  |    |                    |       |                                   |                 |                          |                                      |  |  |  |  |
| *EXAMINER<br>INITIAL   | AA | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE  | NAME                              | CLASS           | SUBCLASS                 | FILING DATE IF<br>APPROPRIATE        |  |  |  |  |
|  | AA |                    |       |                                   |                 |                          |                                      |  |  |  |  |
|  | AB |                    |       |                                   |                 |                          |                                      |  |  |  |  |
|  | AC |                    |       |                                   |                 |                          |                                      |  |  |  |  |
|  | AD |                    |       |                                   |                 |                          |                                      |  |  |  |  |
|  | AE |                    |       |                                   |                 |                          |                                      |  |  |  |  |
|  | AF |                    |       |                                   |                 |                          |                                      |  |  |  |  |
|  | AG |                    |       |                                   |                 |                          |                                      |  |  |  |  |
|  | AH |                    |       |                                   |                 |                          |                                      |  |  |  |  |
|  | AI |                    |       |                                   |                 |                          |                                      |  |  |  |  |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS   |    |                    |       |                                   |                 |                          |                                      |  |  |  |  |
|  |    | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE  | COUNTRY                           | CLASS           | SUBCLASS                 | TRANSLATION<br>YES NO                |  |  |  |  |
|  | AJ | 10-295707          | 11/98 | JP                                |                 |                          | Abstract &<br>Partial<br>Translation |  |  |  |  |
|  | AK | 2003-245291        | 09/03 | JP                                |                 |                          | Abstract &<br>Partial<br>Translation |  |  |  |  |
|  | AL |                    |       |                                   |                 |                          |                                      |  |  |  |  |
|  | AM |                    |       |                                   |                 |                          |                                      |  |  |  |  |
|  | AN |                    |       |                                   |                 |                          |                                      |  |  |  |  |
| OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)   |    |                    |       |                                   |                 |                          |                                      |  |  |  |  |
|  | AO |                    |       |                                   |                 |                          |                                      |  |  |  |  |
|  | AP |                    |       |                                   |                 |                          |                                      |  |  |  |  |
| EXAMINER   |    |                    |       |                                   | DATE CONSIDERED |                          |                                      |  |  |  |  |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(1) Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No.10-295707, filed on April 23, 1997 and published on November 10, 1998.

This relates to an apparatus for determining an occlusal surface plane.

Generally, when an artificial tooth adapted to the patient is made, a dentist should exactly identify a plane where the patient's dentition of the upper jaw engages with that of a lower jaw, that is, a relative position of a so-called occlusal surface to the head and face, and the dentist should exactly transmit the occlusal surface to a dental technician who makes the artificial tooth. With regard to exactly transmitting the occlusal surface to the dental technician, it is important to determine three points which are not on a straight line and can reproduce the occlusal surface.

In order to record the occlusal surface, a face-bow is generally used. This face-bow is an instrument that records the occlusal surface as a reference plane on which there are three points, that is, two rear points and one front point. A lower edge of an orbit is utilized as the front reference point, and an average-value condyle head (hinge axis) or external ear holes are utilized as the rear reference points in many cases. In using the face-bow, for example, ear pieces of the face-bow are inserted into opposite external ear holes, an orbital pointer is pressed onto the lower edge of the orbit, a bite member attached to a bite fork is put between the upper-jaw dentition and the lower-jaw dentition, and the patient is allowed to bite the bite member.

In this way, a plane including three points of the opposite external ear holes and the orbit lower edge become the reference plane, and the patient's occlusal surface is recorded in the face-bow.

Next, the dental technician receives the face-bow in which the occlusal surface is recorded, applies this face-bow to an articulator, an upper-jaw dentition cast (maxillary cast) and a lower-jaw dentition cast (mandibular cast)

are fixed with plaster to the articulator, and makes the artificial tooth by use of these casts.

In No.10-295707, face-bow 1 comprises wire 5 for determining an occlusal plane, pupil line bar 10 and median line bar 13 are attached to face-bow 1 in a condition that face-bow 1 is attached to articulator 3.

Pupil line bar 10 and median line bar 13 are described In No.10-295707 but these elements are attached to face-bow 1 and in transferring the occlusal plane to articulator 3, face-bow 1 is essentially required.